



City of Concord

Weekly City Manager Newsletter

November 4, 2016

MAIN STREET PROJECT

The Main Street Project Celebration and Official Street Opening will take place on Thursday, November 10th, at 4:00 PM. A brief ceremony will be held at City Plaza (in front of the State House) featuring U.S. Department of Transportation Undersecretary Blair Anderson and the 150-member Concord High School Marching Band. Mayor Bouley will serve as the Master of Ceremonies. Following the ceremony, the band will lead everyone down the southbound lane of Main Street to a reception at the Capitol Center for the Arts. The reception, featuring snacks, beverages and music, will be family-friendly and is free and open to everyone. The reception is sponsored, in part, by the Duprey Companies.

To accommodate the parade to the Capitol Center for the Arts, there will be a temporary “rolling closure” of the southbound lane of North Main Street from about 4:15-4:30 PM on Thursday. The northbound lanes of South Main and North Main will remain open to through traffic as usual all afternoon. Traffic on side streets accessing Main Street will be affected by the closure for about 10 minutes or so at a time. South Main Street will officially open to two-way traffic shortly after 4:30 PM.



Utility crews will continue their work on South Main Street next week; and crews will continue addressing punch list items. Early next week, new street-spanning banners welcoming visitors to Concord will be installed; one just west of the bridge on Loudon Road and the other on South Main Street at Thorndike Street. Installation of accent lighting on the Franklin Pierce statue and the historic arch at City Plaza was completed yesterday and is stunning. Don't miss the last edition of Concord TV's "[Main Street Minute](#)" for the final update on the Main Street Project.

With South Main Street fully open and parking available on both sides of the street, paid parking on South Main Street will resume on November 14th.

STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION

On Tuesday, November 8th, residents may cast their vote in the Statewide General Election. [Polling locations](#) within the City of Concord will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Residents who are unable to vote at the polls on Election Day, due to absence from town or physical disability, may obtain an absentee ballot from the City Clerk's Office. You must be registered to vote prior to casting an absentee ballot. For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 225-8500 or via e-mail at cityclerk@concordnh.gov.

SEWALLS FALLS BRIDGE OPENING



After 13 months of construction, the new Sewalls Falls Bridge will open to permanent two-way traffic on Friday, November 11th. Work related to removal of the work bridge and access road will continue, as well as construction of the Heritage Park area. You can follow the remaining progress of the work at www.sewallsfallsbridge.com.



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MUNICIPAL OFFICES CLOSED



In observance of Veterans Day, City offices and the Concord Public Library will be closed on Friday, November 11th.

Trash and recycling collection will take place as normally scheduled next week.



Concord Parks & Recreation has partnered with Santa to help collect letters this year! Stop by the Parks & Recreation office, located at 14 Canterbury Road, during regular business hours to drop off your letter and \$5.00 postage fee in Santa's mailbox. Once Santa receives your letter, his reply (along with an envelope full of reindeer landing dust and a recipe for Mrs. Claus' famous sugar cookies) will find its way back to you!

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PLEDGE TO RECYCLE & WIN PAYT TRASH BAGS

Over the last eight years, recycling in Concord has increased by 150%. Last year, 5,087 tons of recycling was collected, which is equivalent to 10 million pounds and compares to 8,867 tons of trash. Nationally, the recycling rate is 34%, which has increased significantly over the past 30 years. Still, more can be done. The United States is a top trash generator in the world, and Americans can be oblivious to just how much trash accumulates, as it becomes "out of sight, out of mind" thanks to proper waste management.

Reducing waste has been a big priority for the City of Concord and has successfully reduced trash tonnage by 40% with the introduction of the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) Program in 2009. Unit-based pricing systems have proven to reduce trash volumes and increase recycling rates. Single-stream recycling is another initiative by the City to make recycling easy without the hassle of sorting materials.



Concord General Services is asking everyone in the Concord community to get involved by participating in **America Recycles Day** on **Tuesday, November 15th**. America Recycles Day is a nationwide initiative by Keep America Beautiful, dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the U.S. Between now and November 15th, visit AmericaRecyclesDay.org and take the #BeRecycled Pledge. Concord residents that take the pledge and share it on Facebook or Twitter will be entered to win a bundle of PAYT trash bags if the post tags Concord General Services (@ConcordNHGS) and uses the hashtag #BeRecycled. For more information, visit www.concordnh.gov/solidwaste.

BROKEN GROUND TRAILS

The new [Broken Ground Trails](#) officially opened on October 22nd. Despite the threat of rain, 38 people showed up for the inaugural hike. The opening was especially important for the neighbors who worked very hard for years to protect this land from development. The trail system has been in the works since the City purchased the land for conservation in 2013. Over the past year, the Conservation Commission and the Trails Subcommittee worked on the layout and construction of the trail system. The trails were laid out by City Forester Ron Klemarczyk, and the project was managed by volunteer Fran Philippe, a resident of East Side Drive who has dreamed of these trails for years. Fran did an amazing job rallying volunteers and she put in over 80 hours of work on the trails. Between May 18th and October 21st, 23 volunteers worked a total of 284 hours to make the vision become a reality. Thank you to all for giving of your time to create another great resource in the City of Concord!